

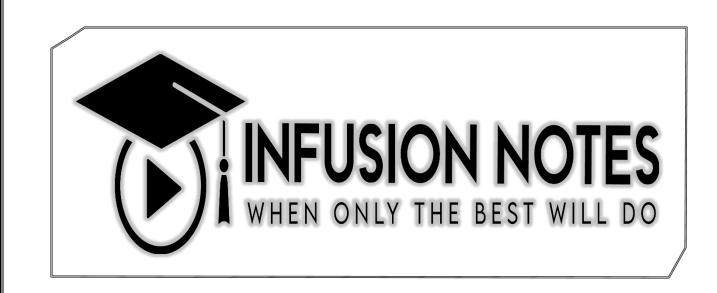
U.P.S.C ENGLISH MEDIUM



HANDWRITTEN NOTES PRE+ MAINS

General Study paper - 1

Part - 2 Ancient and Medieval History of India





PRE + MAINS

UNION PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION (U.P.S.C.)

GENERAL STUDY PAPER – 1

Part – 2 Ancient and Medieval

History of India

PREFACE

Dear Aspirants, Presented Notes "UPSC – CSE (PRE + MAINS)" have been prepared by a team of teachers, colleagues and toppers who are expert in various subjects.

These notes will help the Aspirants to the fullest extent possible in the examination Of Civil Services conducted by the UNION PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION (UPSC).

Finally, despite careful efforts, there may be chances of some shortcomings and errors in the notes / So your suggestions are cordially invited in Infusion notes.

Publisher :-

INFUSION NOTES

Jaipur, 302017 (RAJASTHAN) Mob. : 01414045784, 8233195718 Email :- contact@infusionnotes.com Website: http://www.infusionnotes.com

Whatsapp Link - https://wa.link/5keqjl

Online Order Link - https://bit.ly/upsc-ias-notes

PRICE -

EDITION - LATEST (2022)

CONTACT US - 9887809083, 8233195718, 8504091672, 9694804063

ANCIENT AND MEDIVAL HISTORY OF INDIA

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<u>CHAPTER - I</u>

WHY STUDY HISTORY

<u>History</u>

History (from the Greek word – Historia, meaning "inquiry", knowledge acquired by investigation) is the study of the past. History is an umbrella term that relates to past events as well as the discovery, collection, organization, presentation and interpretation of information about these events.

It is divided into pre-history, proto-history, and history.

- Pre-history Events that occurred before the invention of writing are considered prehistory. Prehistory is represented by the three stone ages.
- 2. Proto-history It refers to the period between prehistory and history, during which a culture or organization had not developed yet but has its mention in the written records of a contemporary literate civilization. For example, the scripts of the Harappan civilization remains undeciphered, however since its existence is noted in Mesopotamian writing, it is considered part of proto-history. Similarly, Vedic civilization from 1500-600 BCE is considered part of proto-history as well. Neolithic and Chalcolithic cultures are also considered part of proto-history by archaeologists.
- 3. **History** The study of the past after the invention of writing and the study of literate societies based on written records and archaeological sources constitute history.

CONSTRUCTION OF ANCIENT HISTORY

Historical source – It is the original source that contains important historical information. Construction of History is based on these sources.

Construction of Ancient Indian History

The sources which help in reconstructing history are:

- I. Non-literary sources
- 2. Literary sources which include religious literature & secular literature

Non-Literary Sources

Coins:

- Ancient Indian currency was not issued in the form of paper but as coins. The earliest coins found in India contained only a few symbols, punch-marked coins made of silver & copper, but later coins mentioned the names of the kings, gods, dates, etc. The areas where they were found indicate the region of their circulation. This enabled to reconstruct the history of several ruling dynasties, especially during Indo-Greek rule who came to India from Northern Afghanistan and ruled India in 2nd and 1st BCE. Coins throw light on the economic history of different dynasties and also provide input on different parameters involved such as the script, art, religion of that time. It also helps in understanding the progress made in terms of metallurgy and science and technology. (The study of coins is called Numismatics).
- The oldest coins found in the sub continent are punch marked coins made mostly of silver, some of copper. They are usually rectangular, sometimes square or round. They contain symbols which were hammered on separately, using dies or



punches. Coins were also issued by tribal republics such as that of the Yaudheyas of Punjab and Haryana (c. first century CE).

- Ancient coins were made of metal- copper, silver, gold, or lead. Coin molds made of burnt clay have been discovered in large numbers. Most of them belong to the Kushan period, i.e., the first three Christian centuries. The use of such moulds in the post-Gupta period almost disappeared.
- The first gold coins were issued c. first century CE by the Kushanas. These were virtually identical in weight with those issued by contemporary Roman emperors and the Parthian rulers of Iran, and have been found from several sites north India and Central Asia.
- People deposited money in earthen ware and also in brass vessels, and maintained them as precious hoards. Many of these hoards, containing not only Indian coins but also those minted abroad such as in the Roman empire, have been discovered in different parts of the country. They are preserved mostly in museums at Calcutta, Patna, Lucknow, Delhi, Jaipur, Bombay and Madras. Many Indian coins are found in the museums of Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan.
- Coins of the major dynasties have been cataloged and published. Catalogs of coins are present in the Indian Museum at Calcutta, of Indian coins in the British Museum in London.
- Our earliest coins contain a few symbols, but the later coins mention the names of kings, gods, or dates.
- The areas where they are found indicate the region of their circulation. This has enabled us to reconstruct the history of several ruling dynasties, especially of the Indo Greeks who came to India from north Afghanistan and ruled here in the second and first centuries B.C.

- Coins also throw significant light on economic history. Some coins were issued by the guilds of merchants and goldsmiths with the permission of the rulers. Some coins with the word negama seem to represent coins issued by merchant guilds. This shows that crafts and commerce had become important.
- The largest number of coins belong to post-Mauryan times. These were made of lead, potin, copper, bronze, silver and gold. The Guptas issued the largest number of gold coins. All this indicates that trade and commerce flourished, especially in post-Mauryan and Gupta times. But the fact that only a few coins belonging to the post-Gupta period have been found indicates the decline of trade and commerce at that time.Coins also contain religious symbols and legends which throw light on the art and religion of the time.

Archaeology/Material remains:

The science which deals with the digging of the old mounds in a systematic manner, in successive layers and enables to form an idea of the material life of the people is Archaeology. Material remains called recovered as a result of excavation and exploration are subjected to various kinds of examinations. Their dates are fixed according to radiocarbon dating. For example, excavated sites belonging to the Harappan period help us to know about the life of the people who lived in that era. Similarly, the Megaliths (graves in south India) throw light on the life of the people living in the Deccan and South India before 300 BCE. The history of climate and vegetation known through is an examination of plant residues, especially through pollen analysis.



Înscriptions/Prashastis –

- (The study and interpretation of ancient inscriptions is called epigraphy). Writings engraved on hard surfaces such as stone and metals like copper which usually record some achievements, ideas, royal orders and decisions help in understanding different religions, and administrative policies of that era. For example, inscriptions detailing state policy issued by Emperor Ashoka and inscriptions recording the land grants by Satavahanas, Kings of the Deccan.
- Inscriptions were carved on seals, stone pillars, rocks, copper plates, temple walls and bricks or images.
- The earliest inscriptions were recorded on stone. But in the early centuries of the Christian era copper plates began to be used for this purpose. A large number of inscriptions recorded on the walls of the temples served as permanent records.
- The earliest inscriptions were written in the Prakrit language in the third century B.C. Sanskrit was adopted as an epigraphic medium in the second century A.D. and its use became widespread in the fourth and fifth centuries.
- Most inscriptions bearing on the history of Maurya, post Maurya and Gupta times have been published in a series of collections called Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum.
- The Harappan inscriptions, which await decipherment, seem to have been written in a pictographic script in which ideas and objects were expressed in the form of pictures.
- Asokan inscriptions were engraved in the Brahmi script, which was written from left to right. But some were also included in the Kharosthi script, which was written from right to left. However, the Brahmi script prevailed in the whole country, except for the north-western part. Greek and Aramaic scripts were employed in writing Asokan inscriptions in Afghanistan.

Foreign accounts: Indigenous literature can be supplemented by foreign accounts. To India came the Greek, Chinese and Roman visitors, either as travelers or religious converts, and left behind a rich account of our historical past. Some of the notables among them were:

- Greek Ambassador Megasthenes wrote "Indica" and provided valuable information about the Mauryan society and administration.
- "The Periplus of the Erythrean Sea" and "Ptolemy's Geography", both written in Greek, give valuable information about the ports and commodities of trade between India and the Roman empire.
- Fa-Hein Faxien (337 CE 422 CE), a Buddhist traveler, left a vivid account of the age of the Guptas.
- Hsuan-Tsang, a Buddhist pilgrim, visited India and gave details of India under the reign of King Harshavardhana and the glory of the Nalanda University.
- Y THE BEST WILL DO Scripts used in Inscriptions
- 1. Prakrit Initially the inscriptions were written in Prakrit script.
- 2. Brahmi Script Most Ashokan inscriptions were engraved in the Brahmi script, which was written from left to right.
- Kharoshthi Script- Some inscriptions of Ashoka were incised in the Kharosthi script which was written from right to left.
- Greek and Aramaic scripts These scripts were employed in writing Ashokan inscriptions in Pakistan and Afghanistan. In the 14th century AD, two Ashokan pillar inscriptions were found by Firoz Shah Tughlaq, one in Meerut (Uttar Pradesh) and other at Topra (Haryana). He brought them to Delhi. These epigraphs were first deciphered in 1837 by

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James Prinsep, a civil servant of East India Company in Bengal.

- The earliest inscriptions are found on the seals of Harappa belonging to about 2500 B.C. They have not been deciphered so far.
- The oldest inscriptions deciphered so far were issued by Asoka in the third century B.C. An Asokan pillar inscription was found by Firoz Shah Tughlaq in Meerut. These epigraphs were first deciphered in 1837 by James Prinsep, a civil servant in the employ of the East India Company in Bengal.

Types of inscriptions :

- some convey royal orders and decisions regarding social, religious and administrative matters to officials and people in general. Asokan inscriptions belong to this category.
- Others are votive records of the followers of Buddhism, Jainism, Vaishnavism, Shaivism, etc. who put up pillars, tablets, temples or images as marks of devotion. A 7th century Kudumiyamalai inscription gives the musical notes used in seven classical ragas.
- Other types eulogize the attributes and achievements of kings and conquerors, and never speak of their defeats or weakness. To this category belongs the Allahabad inscription of Samudragupta. We have many donative records which refer specially to gifts of money, cattle. land, etc, mainly for religious purposes, made not only by kings and princes but also by artisans and merchants.
- Many inscriptions record the building of waterworks, wells by private individuals. A 150 B.C. inscription of the Shaka ruler Rudradaman records the construction of Sudarshana lake in 4th century B.C. during the rule of Maurya emperor Chandragupta.

<u>Literary Sources</u>

- Although the ancient Indians knew writing as early as 2500 B.C. our most ancient manuscripts are not older than the fourth century A.D., and have been found in Central Asia.
- In India they were written on birch bark and palm leaves, but in Central Asia, where the Prakrit language. had spread from India, manuscripts were also written on sheep leather and wooden tablets. These writings are called inscriptions, but they are as good as manuscripts.
- Old Sanskrit manuscripts are found all over the country, they mostly belong to south India, Kashmir and Nepal.
- The religious literature of the Hindus includes the Vedas, the epics, Ramayana and Mahabharata, the Puranas, etc. They throw light on the social and cultural conditions of ancient times.
- The Rig Veda may be assigned to circa 1500-1000 B.C. but the collections of the Atharvaveda, Yajurveda, the Brahmanas and the Upanishads belong roughly to 1000 500 B.C. Almost every Vedic text contains interpolations, which generally appear at its beginning or end but are not in its middle.
- The Rig Veda mainly contains prayers, while the later Vedic texts mainly comprise not only prayers but also rituals, magic and mythological stories. However, the Upanishads contain philosophical speculations.
- The two epics and the major Puranas seem to have been finally compiled by circa AD. 400. Of the epics the Mahabharata is older in age and possibly reflects the state of affairs from the 10th century B.C. to the 4th century A.D. Originally it consisted of 8800 verses and was called Jaya samhita or the collection dealing with victory.
- **Religious Literature:** The religious literature throws light on the social, economic as well as cultural conditions of



CHAPTER - 3

INDUS VALLEY CIVILIZATION (IVC) - 3300-1400 BC

Introduction

- The Indus Valley civilization was protohistoric and bronze age urban civilization. In 1826 Charles Masson, an adventurer, stood on the mounds of Harappa. A few years later, a traveler named Alexander Bumes visited Harappa, but was clueless about its significance.
- In the 1850s Harappa was visited by Alexander Cunningham, a military engineer of East India Company. He conducted a small excavation, but was not impressed. When he revisited Harappa in 1872 as Director General of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), he found the mounds badly disturbed by railway contractors. He found stone tools and ancient pottery.
- In 1921, Days Ram Sahn started excavations at Harappa and in 1922 R.D. Banerji started excavating Mohenjodaro. The formal announcement of the discovery of the Indus or Harappan civilization was made in 1924 by Jotin Marshall, Director-General of the Archaeological Survey of India.
- The Indus valley civilization is also called the Harappan culture. Archaeologists use the term "culture" for a group of objects. distinctive in style, that are usually found together within a specific geographical area and period of time In the case of the these. Harappan culture, distinctive objects include seals, beads, weights, stone: blades and even baked bricks. These objects were found from areas as Afghanistan, far apart as Jammu, Balochistan (Pakistan) and Gujarat.

Named after Harappa, the first site where this unique culture was discovered, the civilization is dated between c. 2600 and 1900 BCE. There were earlier and later cultures, often called Early Harappan and Late Harappan, in the same area. The Harappan civilization is sometimes called the Mature Harappan culture to distinguish it from these cultures.

(a) Early Harappan Phase (c. 3200-2600 B.C.) - It was the formative, proto-urban phase. eg Padri (Gujarat),Dholavira

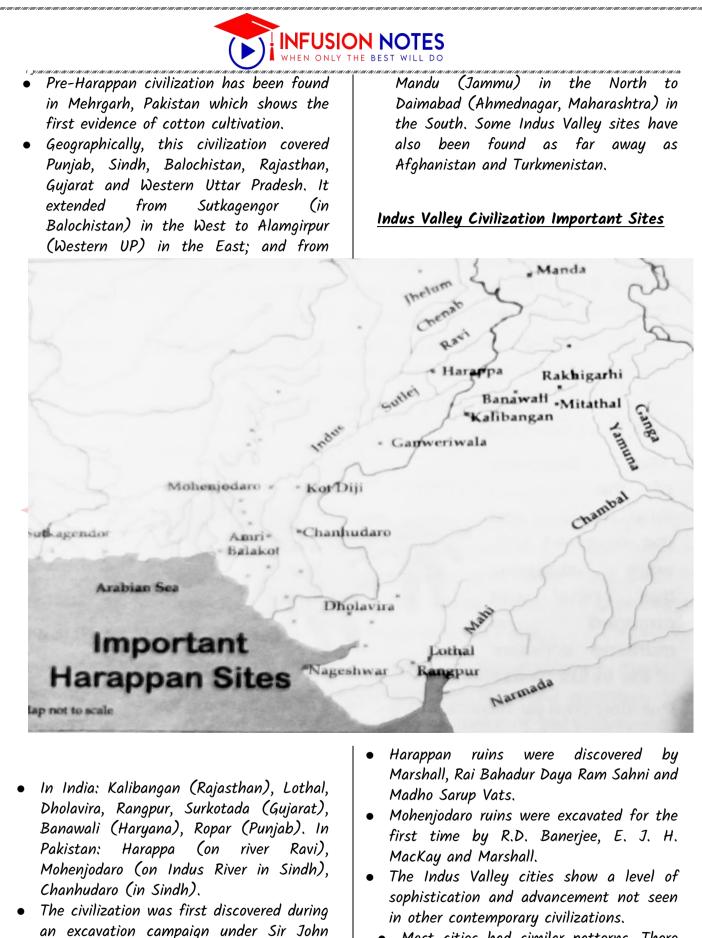
(Kutch), Harappa (Pakistan). Balakot, Amri and Bhirrana (Haryana). Kot Diji.

(b) Mature Harappan Phase (c. 2600 1900
B.C.) - It was the urban phase, the full fledged stage of civilization. e.g. Harappa,
Mohenjodaro, Lothal, Chanhudaro,
Kalibangan.

Y THE BEST WILL DO (c) Late Harappan Phase (c.1900-1300 B.C.)
It was the post-urban phase, when the cities declined. eg. Kudwala (Cholistan), Bet Dwarka (Gujarat), Daimabad (Maharashtra).

Indus Valley Civilization (IVC) flourished around 2500 BC, which is often called the age of matured IVC. It forms the backbone of India as it is one of the major civilizations of the world.

- The Indus Valley Civilization was established around 3300 BC. It flourished between 2600 BC and 1900 BC (Mature Indus Valley Civilization). It started declining around 1900 BC and disappeared around 1400 BC.
- This is also called Harappan Civilization after the first city to be excavated, Harappa (Punjab, Pakistan).



- Most cities had similar patterns. There were two parts: a citadel and the lower town.
- Most cities had a Great Bath.

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Hubert Marshall in 1921–22 at Harappa

following the discovery of seals by J Fleet.



- 5. Chanhudaro
- 6. Dholavira
- 7. Banawali

Surkotada, Lothal, and Dholavira are the important port towns in the Indus valley. Harappa, Mohenjo Daro, Banawali and Dholavira are considered as the four main Harappan Sites. Till 1999, over 1,056 urban areas and settlements had been found. 96 sites have been excavated, mostly in the region of the Indus and Ghaggar-Hakra Rivers and their tributaries. Among the settlements were the most important urban centers of Harappa, Mohenjodaro, Ganeriwala, Dholavira, and Rakhigarhi.

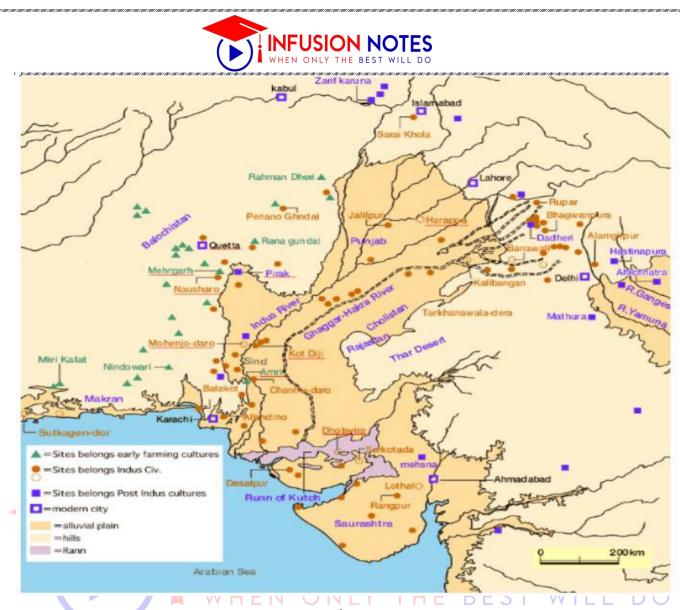
Major Sites of Indus Valley Civilization

Here we are giving the list of major sites in the Indus valley civilizations along with its location, major findings which are very useful for UPSC IAS Prelims examination.

Year	Site	Location	Excavated by	Major findings
1921	Harappa	Sahiwal District, Punjab in the banks of Ravi	Daya Ram Sahni	 Piece of Pottery with Indus Script Cubical Limestone Weight Faience Slag Sandstone statues of Human anatomy Commen Bulleck cent
			JSIO	 Copper Bullock cart Granaries Coffin burials (Only founded in Harappa) Terracotta Figurines
1922	Mohenjo- Daro	Larkana District Of Sind on the bank of Indus	R. D Banerjee	 Great bath Granary Unicorn Seals (Most numbers of it in here) Bronze dancing girl statue Seal of a man with deers, elephants, tiger and rhinos around- Considered to be Pashupati Seal) Steatite statue of beard man Bronze buffalo
Mullan Sandha , Sind on the Indus river	Sutkagend or	Baluchistan on Dast river	Stein	• 0



1931	Chanhuda ro	Mullan Sandha, Sind on the Indus river	N G Majumdar	 Bangle Factory InkPot Bead makers shop The footprint of a dog chasing a cat Cart with a seated driver Note: It is the only city without a citadel.
1935	Amri	Close to Balochistan, on the bank of Indus river	N G Majumdar	 Antelope evidence Rhinoceros' evidence
1953	Kalibanga n	Hanumangarh District, Rajasthan on the bank of Ghaggar river	Amlanand Ghose	 Lower fortified town Wooden drainage Copper Ox Evidence of earthquake Wooden plow Camel's bone Fire altars Camel's bones Furrowed land
1953	Lothal	Gujarat H E on Bhogva river near the Gulf of Cambay.	R. Raoly TH	 Port Town WILL DO Graveyard Ivory weight balance Copper dog First manmade port Dockyard Rice husk Fire altars Chess-playing
1964	Surkotada	Gujarat	J P Joshi	• 0
1974	Banawali	Fatehabad district of Haryana	R S Bisht	 Beads Barley Oval shaped settlement The only city with radial streets Toy plow The largest number of barley grains



<u>9 Facts on Population of Indus Valley</u> <u>Civilization</u>

- I. The Population of Indus Valley Civilization was over 5 million
- 2. Most of the inhabitants of the civilisation were artisans and traders.
 - 3. Majority of the population of Indus Valley Civilization lived in villages, it is not evident as the villages may have been constructed of destructible materials like mud or timber.
 - 4. Hence, it is difficult to find out the lifestyle and culture in these villages which have been lost over a period of time without any trace.
- 5. The Indus Valley Civilization was a highly sophisticated civilisation with a muchorganized way of living.

- 6. Despite being densely populated, the cities were not chaotic, unlike contemporary cities of Mesopotamia or Egypt.
- Mohenjo-Daro, measuring an area of about 300 hectares, was the largest city.
- 8. Mohenjo-Daro might have had a 40000strong population.
- 9. Allahdino was the smallest site in the Indus Valley Civilization.

5 <u>Facts on Drainage System of Indus</u> <u>Valley Civilization</u>

- I. They had advanced sanitation systems.
- 2. People of the Indus Valley Civilization knew about and implemented channeling of water and the disposal of waste waterway before any other ancient civilization did.
- 3. Even the Romans built aqueducts thousands of years later.

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- 4. So advanced was their water management system that they had separate channels lining the Harappan streets for wastewater and stormwater (rainwater).
- 5. The wastewater drains were underground, and had opening terracotta lids for cleaning purposes!

<u>16 Facts on Town Planning of Indus Valley</u> <u>Civilization</u>

- 1. World's first planned cities were found in the Indus Valley Civilization.
- 2. The cities of the civilisation were planned in grid patterns with streets crossing at right angles.
- 3. These marvels of urban planning were thousands of years older than the period of Hippodamus of Miletus, considered the 'father of European urban planning'.
- 4. The Indus Valley cities and towns had a rectangular grid pattern.
 - 5. The main streets were along the North-South direction and the secondary streets were along the East-West direction.
 - 6. The streets intersected at right angles. This precise pattern is believed to be owing to religious or astronomical beliefs.
 - Apart from being well-planned and having excellent drainage systems, the Harappan cities and towns were also standardized.
 - 8. Almost all the places excavated are seen as having a similar structure and pattern.
 - 9. Even the bricks of the houses had similar dimensions!
 - 10. The streets found in Mohenjo-Daro and Harappa were as wide as 10.5 m.
 - 11. The smaller roads were at least 1.5 m wide.
 - 12. Archaeologists believe that the wide streets point out to market activities along with them.
 - 13. Harappan streets were paved with burnt bricks to facilitate the easy movement of ox carts.

- 14. The cities of the Indus Valley Civilization had channels running along the streets for the disposal of drainage water.
- 15. The cities of the Indus Valley Civilization could be divided into distinct neighborhoods.
- 16. Each neighborhood had inhabitants who were engaged in a particular profession.

<u>3 Facts on World's Oldest Signboard</u> belonging to IVC

- A board with stone symbols/letters over 30 cm in height in a wooden frame was discovered at Dholavira in 1999.
- 2. Archaeologists believe this was the world's first signboard!
- 3. It is thought to have been placed at the façade of the northern gate of the city's citadel.

3 Major Facts on Hygiene and Cleanliness in Indus Valley Civilization

- Fact I: Hygiene was Top Priority
- 1. The people of the Indus Valley Civilization led a very hygienic, clean and healthy life.

The excavations reveal this fact.

 A large number of public baths, the excellent water management system, running water in every house, neat drainage systems and the underground wastewater systems all point out to the importance of hygiene in Harappan life.

Fact 2: Dustbins along the streets

- Even in those ancient times, the Indus Valley Civilization was way ahead of its time in terms of civic sense.
- There were dustbins placed along the streets in Mohenjo-Daro!

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- 2. This ratio was followed in the houses, public structures, neighborhood regions and even the city.
- 3. Historians do not know whether this standardization was owing to religious beliefs or just a convention followed by the builders.

Fact 5: Harappan houses were multistoried buildings

- So advanced was their architecture and masonry that Harappa had two and threestoried houses.
- 2. These spacious houses had central courtyards and accessible flat terraces too.

Fact 6: The Indus Valley houses could keep off dust and noise

- 1. None of the houses in the Indus Valley had windows facing the main streets.
- 2. The houses had only one door.
 - 3. All the windows and the door of the houses would open into the central courtyard.
 - 4. Thus, they were strategically designed to avoid noise and dust.

Fact 7: Houses with attached bathrooms

- 1. Indus Valley civilization was perhaps the first in the world to have houses with attached bathrooms.
- 2. They also had access to running water.
- 3. In addition, they had toilets with advanced drainage facilities.

Fact 8: The world's first rainwater harvesting was here

- 1. The Harappan civilisation had systems to store rainwater.
- 2. They had complex and efficient water management systems.

- 3. The world's public water tank, named The Great Bath, was found here.
- The city of Mohenjo-Daro also had a large water management system with 80 public toilets and about 700 wells.
- 5. The wells were strategically placed to supply water to every locality.

7 Facts on good advancements in Metallurgy in Indus Valley Civilization

- 1. They produced metal products including those in lead, copper, bronze and tin.
- 2. They exported these products.
- 3. They knew the technique of smelting copper with other metals.
- Gold necklaces smaller than 0.25 mm in diameter have been excavated at Lothal. Other metal artifacts have been found in Mohenjo-Daro, Harappa and Rangpur.
- 5. Harappan copper implements were made by the method of casting.
- Bronze vessels were made from a single sheet which was hammered.
- 7. Metal alloying technology was welldeveloped in the Indus Valley Civilization.

They even tested the purity of gold by the touchstone technique

- I. A touchstone has been recovered from Banawali, Haryana.
- 2. This touchstone has streaks of gold in it indicating that it was probably used to assay the purity of gold.
- 3. This technique is used in some parts of the country to this day.







<u>4 Facts on Precise Measurement Systems</u> <u>in The Indus Valley Civilization</u>

- Stone cubes have been excavated from the sites of this civilization. Archaeologists believe them to be weighted for measurement.
- These weights increase in a ratio of 5:2:1. They had weights of 0.05, 0.1, 0.2, 0.5, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, and 500 units.
- 3. They are different from the system of measurement of Egypt and Mesopotamia of that time, so it can be concluded that this system was developed indigenously.
- 4. The smallest division on a marking on an ivory scale was around 1.704 mm found in Lothal, Gujarat. This is the smallest

recorded division found from the Bronze Age.

<u>9 Major General Facts of Indus Valley Civilization</u>

Fact 1: The oldest Indus Valley settlement was established around 7000 B.C.

- 1. Mehrgarh is the oldest known settlement dating back to around 7000 B.C.
- 2. It began during the Pre-Harappan period.
- 3. Mehrgarh was a farming village.

Fact 2: Over 4000 seals have been found from the sites

- 1. These seals are small, rectangular stone slabs with inscriptions on them.
- 2. They also have images of animals and other figures on them.
- 3. The use of these seals is uncertain.

Fact 3: The city of Mohenjo-Daro was built at least 9 times

- 1. Many of the cities of this civilization were destroyed several times by flood, deposition of silts, etc.
- 2. Each time they were rebuilt.
- 3. What is amazing is that every time they rebuilt the cities, they employed the same grid pattern.
- 4. Mohenjo-Daro was constructed nine times and each time on top of the earlier grid.
- 5. This shows the sophistication in their urban planning.

Fact 4: The Indus Valley Civilization even had dentists among them

1. In 2006, Nature journal declared that the first evidence of drilling of the human teeth in a live person was found in Mehrgarh, present Pakistan.



नोट - प्रिय IAS उम्मीदवारों, यहाँ हमने इस टॉपिक का मात्र SAMPLE ही दिया है, पूरा टॉपिक नही दिया है / यदि आपको हमारे नोट्स के सैंपल अच्छे लगे हों तो कम्पलीट नोट्स खरीदने के लिए नीचे दिए गये हमारे संपर्क नंबर पर कॉल कीजिए या लिंक पर क्लिक करें / दोस्तों, हमें पूर्ण विश्वास है कि ये नोट्स आपकी "<u>UPSC</u> <u>IAS (PRE. & MAINS)</u>" की परीक्षा में पूर्ण संभव मदद करेंगे और आप "INFUSION NOTES" के साथ IAS की परीक्षा में जरूर सफल होंगे, धन्यवाद /

संपर्क करें - 9887809083, 8233195718, 9694804063, 8504091672

<u>प्रिय दोस्तों, अब तक हमारे विभिन्न नोट्स में से विभिन्न परीक्षाओं में</u> आये हए प्रक्षों के परिणाम -

EXAM (परीक्षा) WHEN	EXAM DATE	<u>हमारे नोट्स में से</u> <u>आये हुए प्रश्न</u>
RAS PRE. 2021	27 अक्तूबर 2021	74 प्रश्न (ISO में से) CUT OFF - 64
UPSC - IAS PRE. (2022)	05 JUNE 2022	69 (100 में से)
SSC GD 2021	16 नवम्बर	68 (100 में से)
SSC GD 2021	01 दिसम्बर	65 (100 में से)
SSC GD 2021	08 दिसम्बर	67 (100 में से)
राजस्थान ऽ.।. 2021	13 सितम्बर	113 (200 में से)
राजस्थान ऽ.।. 2021	14 सितम्बर	119 (200 में से)



राजस्थान S.I. 2021	15 सितम्बर	126 (200 में से)
RAJASTHAN PATWARI 2021	23 अक्तूबर (Ist शिफ्ट)	79 (150 में से)
RAJASTHAN PATWARI 2021	23 अक्तूबर (2 nd शिफ्ट)	103 (150 में से)
RAJASTHAN PATWARI 2021	24 अक्तूबर (Ist शिफ्ट)	95 (150 में से)
RAJASTHAN PATWARI 2021	24 अक्तूबर (2nd शिफ्ट)	91 (150 में से)
RAJASTHAN VDO 2021	27 दिसंबर (1⁵ शिफ्ट)	59 (100 में से)
RAJASTHAN VDO 2021	27 दिसंबर (2 nd शिफ्ट)	61 (100 में से)
RAJASTHAN VDO 2021	28 दिसंबर (1ª शिफ्ट)	56 (100 में से)
RAJASTHAN VDO 2021	28 दिसंबर (2nd शिफ्ट)	57 (100 में से)
U.P. SI 2021	14 नवम्बर 2021 1 st शिफ्ट	91 (160 में से)
U.P. SI 2021 WHEN	2 ।नव म्बर2021 (1 [±] शिफ्ट)	89 (160 में से)

& Many More Exams

दोस्तों, इनका proof देखने के लिए नीचे दी गयी लिंक पर क्लिक करें या हमारे youtube चैनल पर देखें -

RAS PRE. - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p3_i-3qfDy8&t=136s

VDO PRE. - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gXdAk856W18&t=202s

Patwari - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X6mKGdtXyu4&t=103s

अन्य परीक्षाओं में भी इसी तरह प्रश्न आये हैं Proof देखने के लिए हमारे youtube चैनल (Infusion Notes) पर इसकी वीडियो देखें या हमारे नंबरों पर कॉल करें /



संपर्क करें- 9887809083, 8233195718, 9694804063, 8504091672





UPSC - CSE (IAS) PRE. AND MAINS

Dear UPSC – CSE aspirants, In these notes we completed the whole syllabus of **UPSC – CSE (IAS) PRE And MAINS** in **5400** pages, in **IS Parts**, which take approximately **five to six months** to complete.

The IS Parts are –

GENERAL STUDY PAPER - I

- Part I Geography (India + World)
- Part 2 Ancient and Medieval History of India
- Part 3 Modern History of India
- Part 4 Art and Culture VLY THE BEST WILL
- Part 5 Society, World History and Post-Independence India

GENERAL STUDY PAPER - 2

- Part -1 Polity, Constitution and Governance
- Part 2 International Relations
- Part 3 Social Justice and Welfare Schemes



<u>GENERAL STUDY PAPER - 3</u>

- Part I Economics Part I
- Part 2 Economics Part 2
- Part 3 Science and Technology
- Part 4 Environment, Ecology and Biodiversity
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- Part 1 Ethics, Integrity and Aptitude + Case study
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 - 2. Key points of **toppers** who are already in service also added in these notes to help you.



- 3. Infusion notes also have **their expert team** who are best in their core subject, they review the material and complete the final notes.
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- We highlighted and briefly explain the important topics which asked in Previous year question papers.
- 2. Flowcharts, Maps, and Infographics available in these notes helps in picturizing the concept in a precise manner, and makes it easy to remember.
- 3. These notes have Static + Current Coverage data. It Links the current articles with the related static content of all GS papers .
- 4. All notes are handwritten and clearly explained.
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- **4.** These notes are created in a way that every student can easily read them, **like weak, medium or intelligent students.**



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<u>CHAPTER - 10</u>

GUPTA EMPIRE

In Ancient India, the Gupta Dynasty ruled the mid-to-late 3rd century (approximately) to 543 AD. Founded by Sri Gupta, the dynasty rose to fame with rulers like Chandragupta-1, Samudragupta, etc.

The period of the Gupta Empire is popularly known as the "Golden Age of India". It is because of the widespread research and development in science, engineering & technology. literature, art, logic, mathematics, astronomy, religion and philosophy that illuminated the elements of Hindu culture. The prosperity under the Guptas initiated a period of splendid accomplishments in arts and sciences. The

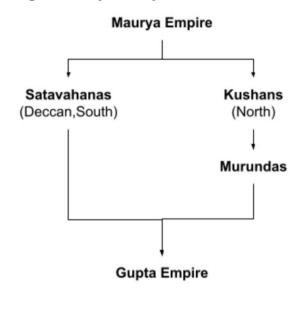
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Gupta Empire lasted from 320 CE to 550 CE.

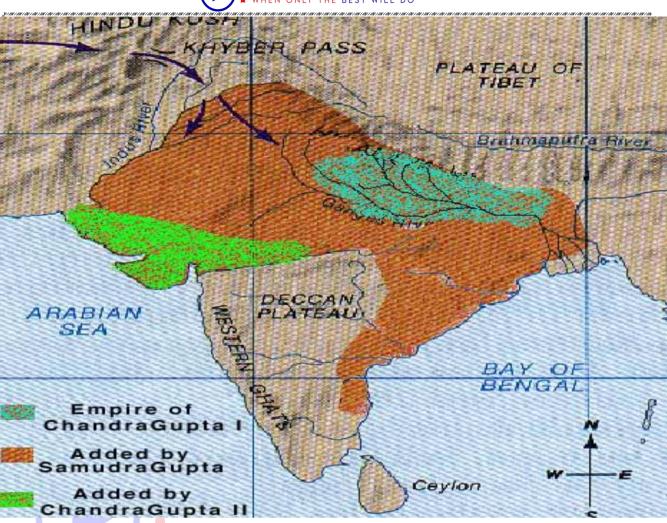
Origin of Gupta Empire

Origin Of Gupta Empire



BEST WILL





WHEN ONL united for more than a century (335 CE-455 CE).

The decline of the Mauryan empire resulted in the rise of two major political powers – the Kushanas and the Satavahanas in the north and south respectively. Both these empires brought political unity and economic growth in their respective areas. The Kushan reign in north India came to an end around c.230 CE and then a good part of central India came under the domain of the Murundas (possible kinsmen of the Kushanas).

The Murundas ruled for only 25 – 30 years. Around the last decade of the 3rd century CE (about 275 CE), the dynasty of the Guptas came to power. The Gupta empire established its control over a good part of the former dominions of both the Kushanas and the Satavahanas. The Guptas (possibly Vaishyas) kept northern India politically The Guptas are believed to have been feudatories of the Kushanas.

- The original kingdom of the Guptas comprised Uttar Pradesh and Bihar with their centre of power at Prayag (U.P).
- The Guptas set up their rule over the fertile plains of the Madhyadesha, also known as Anuganga (the middle Gangetic basin), Saketa (U.P Ayodhya), Prayag (U.P) and Magadha (mostly Bihar).
- The Guptas made good use of the iron ore reserves in central India and south Bihar and also took advantage of their proximity to the areas in north India which carried on silk trade with the Byzantine empire (eastern Roman empire).
- The Gupta period in ancient India is referred to as the "Golden Age" because of the



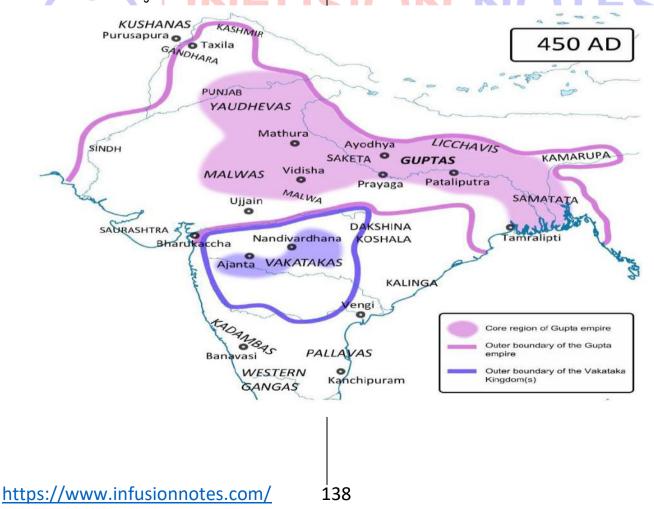
numerous achievements in the field of arts, literature, science and technology. It also brought about the political unification of the subcontinent.

Beginning of Gupta Empire

- The Gupta empire was founded by Sri Gupta. He was then succeeded by Ghatotkacha.
- They came into power in around 275 AD.
- The Gupta empire rose to prominence in Magadha around 320 AD and covered large parts of northern India and smaller parts of southern India.
- They ruled for more than about 200 years.
- The earlier homeland of the family of Guptas are not known for certain. But they might have originated from Bengal. Some researchers claim that they come from Prayaga (Allahabad in UP).
- It is assumed that they are either Brahmins or Vaishyas.

Material Advantages Of Gupta Empire

- The fertile land of Madhyadesha which covered Bihar and Uttar Pradesh was their center of operation.
- The iron ore reserves of central India and South Bihar were possibly exploited by them.
- The proximity to the areas in North India were taken advantage of by them and carried out silk trade with the Eastern Roman empire (Byzantine empire).
- The Gupta empire originally comprised Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. However Uttar Pradesh seems to have been their operating place with a center of power at Prayag. Due to these favourable factors, the Guptas set up their rule over Anuganga (the middle Gangetic basin), Magadha, Saketa (Ayodhya, U.P) and Prayag (Modern Allahabad).





(Nepal). He married Kumaradevi, a princess of the Lichchhavi clan and this added to the power and prestige of the Gupta family (Vaishyas).

- He extended his kingdom through conquests. His territory extended from the Ganges River to Prayaga by 321 AD.
- He issued coins in the joint names of his queen and himself.
- He assumed the title of Maharajadhiraja (great king of kings).
- He was successful in building a small principality into a great kingdom.
- His empire consisted of Uttar Pradesh, Bengal and parts of modern Bihar, with Pataliputra as its capital.
- He is considered the first great king of the Gupta Empire.

Samudragupta (c. 335/336 – 375 CE)

- The Gupta kingdom was enlarged enormously by Chandragupta I's son and successor Samudragupta.
- The Allahabad Pillar Inscription (Prayaga Prashasti) gives a detailed account of his achievements. He followed the policy of war and conquest. This long inscription was composed by his court poet, Harisena, in chaste Sanskrit. The inscription is engraved on the same pillar that carries the inscription of peace-loving Ashoka.
- Much of the Indian subcontinent was directly or indirectly under his control – from kingdoms in Nepal and Punjab in the north to the Pallava kingdom at Kanchipuram in the southeast. The last vestiges of the Kushana rule, like the Shakas, the Mundas and even the independent territory of Simhala (Sri Lanka) acknowledged his suzerainty. The places and the territories conquered by Samudragupta can be divided into five groups:

- **Group I** Includes rulers of Ganga-Yamuna doab, who were defeated. He uprooted nine Naga rulers and annexed their territories.
- Group II Includes rulers of the eastern Himalayan states and some frontier states such as the princes of Nepal, Assam, Bengal, etc. who surrendered to his might. It also includes parts of Punjab.
- Group Ⅲ Includes the forest kingdom situated in the Vindhya region (central India) known as atavika rajyas and forced their rulers into servitude. The conquest of this region helped him to move towards the south.
- **Group IV** Includes twelve rulers of eastern Deccan and south India who were defeated and his power reached as far as Kanchi (Tamil Nadu), where the Pallavas were forced to recognise his suzerainty. It is important to mention that Virasena was the commander of Samudragupta during his southern campaign. In the south, he adopted the policy of political conciliation and reinstated the defeated kings on their thrones. These states acknowledged his suzerainty and paid him tributes and presents.
 - Group V Includes the Shakas of western India and Kushana rulers of north-west India and Afghanistan. Samudragupta swept them out of power.
- Though he had spread his influence over a vast area, and even received tributes from many kings of south-east Asia, Samudragupta exercised direct administrative control mainly over the Indo-Gangetic basin. According to Chinese sources, Meghavarman, the ruler of Sri Lanka, sent a missionary to Samudragupta for permission to build a Buddhist temple at Bodh Gaya.



- After conquering the territories, Samudragupta celebrated by performing the asvamedha (horse sacrifice). He issued coins with the legend "restorer of the asvamedha". It is because of his military achievements that Samudragupta was hailed as the 'Indian Napoleon'.
- He was equally great in his personal accomplishments. The Allahabad Pillar Inscription speaks of his magnanimity to his foes, his polished intellect, his poetic skills, and his proficiency in music. He is known by the title Kaviraja (king among poets) because of his ability in composing verses. His image depicting him with veena (lyre) is found in the coins issued by him. He is also credited with promoting Sanskrit literature and learning, characteristic of his dynasty.
- He was an ardent follower of Vaishnavism but was tolerant of other religions. He showed a keen interest in Buddhism and was the patron of the great Buddhist scholar Vasubandhu.
- Legends on his coins include epithets such as Apratirathah (invincible), Vyaghra-Parakrama (brave as a tiger), Parakramah (brave).

<u>Chandragupta II (c. 376 – 413/415 CE)</u>

- Samudragupta was succeeded by his son Chandragupta II. But according to some scholars, the immediate successor was Ramagupta, the elder brother of Chandragupta II. But there is little historical proof for this.
- During Chandragupta II's reign, the Gupta dynasty reached its peak by expanding territories through conquests as well as by marriage alliances. He married Kubera Manga, a Naga princess and had a daughter, Prabhavati with her. He married Prabhavati to a Vakataka prince, Rudrasena II (Deccan). After the death of her husband,

Prabhavati ruled the territory as regent to her minor sons with the help of her father. Thus Chandragupta II indirectly controlled the Vakataka kingdom.

- Chandragupta II's control over the Vakataka kingdom in central India proved quite advantageous for him. It helped him to conquer Gujarat and western Malwa, which was under the rule of Shakas for about four centuries by that time. The Guptas reached the western sea coast which was famous for trade and commerce. This contributed to the prosperity of Malwa and its main city Ujjain, which was also Chandragupta II's second capital.
- An Iron Pillar inscription at Mehrauli in Delhi indicates that his empire included even north-western India and Bengal. He adopted the title 'Vikramaditya' (powerful as the sun) and Simhavikrama.
- He issued gold coins (Dinara), silver coins and copper coins. On his coins, he is mentioned as Chandra.
- During his reign, a Chinese traveler, Fa-Hien visited India and wrote a detailed account about the life of its people.
- The Udaigiri cave inscriptions refer to his digvijaya, that is, his conquest of the whole world.
- His court at Ujjain was adorned by nine famous scholars known as the Navratnas (nine gems).
- Kalidasa He wrote Abhijnashakuntalam, one of the best hundred literary works in the world and also the earliest Indian work to be translated to European languages.
- Amarasimha His work Amarakosha is a vocabulary of Sanskrit roots, homonyms and synonyms. It has three parts containing around ten thousand words and is also known as Trikanda.
- Varahamihira He wrote three important books-
- He composed Pancha Siddhantika, the five astronomical systems.



- His work Brihadsamhita is a great work in the Sanskrit language. It deals with a variety of subjects like astronomy, astrology, geography, architecture, weather, animals, marriage and omens.
- His Brihat Jataka is considered to be a standard work on astrology.
- Dhanvantri He is considered to be the father of Ayurveda.
- Ghatakarapara An expert in sculpture and architecture.
- Shanku An architect who wrote the Shilpa Shastra.
- Kshapanaka An astrologer who wrote Jyotishya Shastra.
- Vararuchi Author of Prakrit Prakasha, the first grammar of the Prakrit language.
- Vetala Bhatta Author of Mantrashastra and was a magician.
 Kumaragupta I (c. 415 – 455 CE)
- Kumaragupta I was the son and successor of Chandragupta II.
- Adopted the titles of 'Shakraditya' and 'Mahendraditya'.
- Performed 'asvamedha' sacrifices.
- Most importantly, he laid the foundation of Nalanda University which emerged as an institution of international reputation.
- At the end of his reign, peace did not prevail on the north-west frontier due to the invasion of the Huns of Central Asia. After occupying Bacteria, the Huns crossed the Hindukush mountains, occupied Gandhara and entered India. Their first attack, during Kumaragupta I's reign, was made unsuccessful by prince Skandagupta.
- The inscriptions of Kumaragupta I's reign are – Karandanda, Mandsor, Bilsad inscription (oldest record of his reign) and Damodar Copper Plate inscription.

<u> Skandagupta (c. 455 – 467 CE)</u>

Adopted the title 'Vikramaditya'.

- Junagadh/Girnar inscription of his reign reveals that his governor Parnadatta repaired the Sudarshan lake.
- After Skandagupta's death, many of his successors like Purugupta, Kumaragupta II, Buddhagupta, Narasimhagupta, Kumaragupta III and Vishnugupta could not save the Gupta empire from the Huns. Ultimately, the Gupta power totally disappeared due to a variety of reasons.

Gupta Empire: Administration

In Gupta Empire, the king was directed in his administration by a community and group consisting of a chief minister and a Senapati. There were various names of Empire "Rajya", Rashtra", "Desha", "Mandala", "Prithvi" and "Avani". The Empire was divided into provinces called as Bhukti, Bhoga and pradesha. Provinces further divided into "Vishayas" and came under the control of persons called "Vishaya Patis"."Vishaya" further divided into "Nagaras" and "Nagares" were divided into villages. "Vithi" was a part "Vishaya". A group or collection of ŏf villages was called "Pethaka" and "Santaka". Smaller units of a village were "Agrahara" and "Patta".

A Sandivigraha was the minister for foreign affairs. They were mentioned in the Gupta inscriptions. Bhuktis was the name of Provinces in the Gupta Empire. Uparikas was the name of provincial governors. The king maintained a deep contact with the provincial administration. By a group of officials called Kumaramatyas and Ayuktas.

The Gupta kings gathered titles like Paramabhattaraka, Parameswara, Samrat ,Chakravartin and Maharajadhiraja. Bhuktis were divided into Vishyas or districts. The villages were governed by the group of



Gramikas. He was governed by a village council but due to the lack of sources of reference, it is not possible to manage whole community and tough to describe the exact duties and functions of the assembly. Bhuktis could be managed by Vishyapatis. The officers who are looking after the city administration called Nagara Sreshtis.

Land revenue was only one of the primary sources of the income. It helped in increasing production and security to the cultivators. Waste lands came under cultivation. Pasture land was also made safe and increased. There were also some income taxes "bhaga "applied on customs, inheritances and presents.

Fahiyan, the famous Chinese pilgrim came to India at the period of Chandragupta II. He also appreciated the kingdom's management; he openly visited the whole place without any problem. He came after crossing Punjab, khotan, khasnagar and visited so many places in spreading Buddhism and returned back by the sea route of ceylon and java.

Fahiyan said that no restrictions were applied on kingdom's people and they were free to go anywhere and do anything they want and they used to collect their huge amount of free and open life's enjoyment. The concept of punishment was not very common. Lodging a fine was a common punishment for minor offence. The roads were kept safe for travelers. No theft cases were there that time. Fahiyan also notified that people were generally prosperous. There were very less crimes in the dynasty of Gupta mainly in Chandragupta time.

Gupta economy

The salient features of **Gupta economy** included a flourishing trade (which was badly affected in later periods due to Huna invasions), abundant custom revenue from ports in west and east, flourishing robust guild system, flourishing manufacturing industries and a high standard of living.

<u>Trade</u>

- Gupta had a still a flourishing Roman Trade but in the later part, trade was badly affected by Huna invasions. The Trade contacts developed during the Kushana Period continued and Chandragupta II's conquest in western India further added to this trade. The people were prosperous and they were free to grow and flourish. The important port towns were Brigukachchaha, Kalyana & Sind, which were bulk trade centres with Romans. Ujjain had become a major commercial center and it was linked to southern and northern India. Nasik, Paithan, Pataliputra, Benares were other major trade centers.
 - Silk, Leather goods, Fur, Iron Products, Ivory, pearl, Spices and Indigo were major export items. The Port of Tamralipti was a good source of Trade with East Asia. Most of the commodities were taxed One Fifth of the value as a toll in international Trade.

<u>Agriculture</u>

 Agriculture was the main occupation in the Gupta Empire and there was no governmental interference. The land was fertile and means of irrigation were simple.

Occupations

 Gupta period had many cloth centers and the silk industry witnessed a significant development during this period. The Mandsor Inscriptions gives account that Gupta people were helped to a great



Reasons for Decline of Gupta Empire

- The Gupta decline started during the reign of Skandagupta, the grandson of Chandragupta II. He was successful in retaliating against the Huns and the Pushyamitras, but his empire was drained of finances and resources because of this.
- The last recognised king of the Gupta line was Vishnugupta who reigned from 540 to 550 AD.
- Internal fighting and dissensions among the royal family led to its weakening.
- During the reign of a Gupta king, Budhagupta, the Vakataka ruler Narendrasena of western Deccan attacked Malwa, Mekala and Kosala. Later on, another Vakataka king Harishena conquered Malwa and Gujarat from the Guptas.
- During Skandagupta's reign, the Huns invaded northwest India but were restricted. But in the sixth century, they occupied Malwa, Gujarat, Punjab and Gandhara. The Hun invasion weakened the Gupta hold in the country.
- Independent rulers emerged all over the north like Yasodharman of Malwa, the Maukharis of U.P., the Maitrakas in Saurashtra, and others in Bengal. The Gupta Empire was restricted to Magadha only. (Yasodharman had joined forces with Narasimhagupta to successfully retaliate against the Hun chief Mihirakula.)
- The later Guptas' following of Buddhism rather than Hinduism unlike their ancestors also weakened the empire. They did not focus on empire-building and military conquests. (Read the difference between Buddhism and Hinduism in the linked article.)
- So weak rulers along with incessant invasions from foreign as well as native rulers caused the decline of the Gupta Empire.

By the beginning of the sixth century, the empire had disintegrated and was ruled by many regional chieftains.

The various reasons that also led to the fall of the Gupta empire are discussed below:

Hun Invasion

The Gupta prince Skandagupta fought bravely and successfully against the early Huns' invasion. However, his successors proved to be weak and could not check the Huns' The Huns showed excellent invasion. horsemanship and were expert archers which helped them to attain success, not only in Iran but also in India. In the latter half of the 5th century, the Hun chief Toramana conquered large parts of western India, up to Eran near Bhopal in central India. By 485 CE, Huns had occupied Punjab, Rajasthan, Kashmir, eastern Malwa and a large part of <mark>central India.</mark> Toramana (in 515 CE) was succeeded by his son Mihirkula, who was a tyrant ruler as is mentioned in the Rajatarangini by Kalhana and Hieun-Tsang refers to him as a persecutor of Buddhists. Mihirkula was defeated and the Huna power was overthrown by Yashodharman of Malwa, Narasimha Gupta Baladitya of the Gupta empire and the Maukharis. However, this win over Huns could not revive the Gupta empire.

<u>Rise of Feudatories</u>

The rise of feudatories was another factor that led to the fall of the Gupta empire. Yashodharman of Malwa (belonged to the Aulikara feudatory family) after defeating Mihirkula successfully challenged the authority of the Guptas and set up, in 532 CE, pillars of victory commemorating his conquest of almost the whole of northern India. Although Yashodharman's rule was short-lived, it certainly gave a huge blow to



CHAPTER - II

EMERGENCE OF PROVINCIAL KINGDOMS

At its zenith, the Delhi Sultanate included states like Bihar, Bengal, Malwa, Gujarat, the Deccan states of Warangal, the Yadavas of Devagiri, Telangana, the southern state of the Hoysalas of Dwarasamudra, the Pandyas of Madurai and various states of Rajputana like Jalore, Ranthambore, Ajmer, Nagore. However, the process of disintegration of the Delhi Sultanate started around the reign of Firoz Shah Tughlaq (after the 13th century) due to internal instabilities. Some of the provincial kingdoms declared independence from the rule of the Delhi Sultanate and the Vijayanagara Kingdom, the Bahmani Kingdom, the Sultanate in Gujarat, Bengal, Malwa and Jaunpur near Varanasi emerged as powerful provincial kingdoms of medieval India.

Deccan and Southern India^{W H E N} O

Two important kingdoms that emerged in the aftermath of the Delhi Sultanate's disintegration are the Vijayanagara and the Bahmani kingdoms.

Vijayanagara Kingdom (c. 1336 – 1672 CE) Four dynasties ruled the Vijayanagara Kingdom - Sangama (c. 1336 - 1485 CE), Saluva (c. 1485 - 1503 CE), Tuluva (c. 1503 – 1570 CE) and Aravidu (till the end of the 17th century). Many foreign travellers like the Moroccan Ibn Batuta, Persian Abdur Razzak, Venetian Nicolo de Conti and Portuguese Domingo Paes who visited the kingdom have given valuable accounts on the socio-economic conditions of the kingdom. archaeological, literary There are and numismatic sources available that help in understanding the various aspects of the Vijayanagara Kingdom. Srirangam Copper plates of Devaraya II provide the genealogy and achievements of its rulers. The Hampi ruins and other monuments depict the cultural aspects of the period. The kingdom included people from different cultural regions (Karnataka, Telugu and Tamil) who spoke different languages and had different cultures. In the south, the Sultans of Madurai were the main opponents of the Vijayanagara Kingdom. By c. 1377 CE, the Sultanate of Madurai was wiped out and the Vijayanagara Kingdom included the whole of south India. up to Rameshwaram. including Tamil country as well as Cheras (Kerala). In the north, they were in constant conflicts with the Bahmani Kingdom.

The Vijayanagar and Bahmani kingdoms dominated south India for more than 200 years.

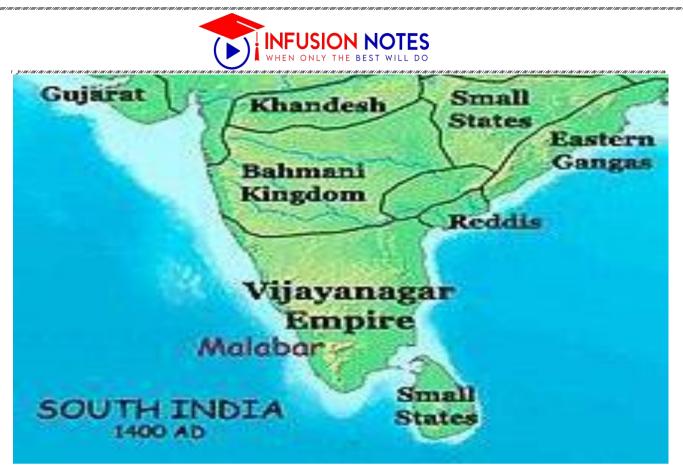
Vijayanagar empire declined in 1565 after the Battle of Bannihatti and Bahmani kingdom also declined by the end of the 15th century AD followed by two devastating events:

- Arrival of the Portuguese in South India/Deccan.
- Foundation of the Mughal Empire in north India.

<u>The VIJAYANAGAR EMPIRE (1336-1646</u> <u>A.D.)</u>

The Vijayanagara Empire was founded by Harihara and Bukka and the reign was from 1336 A.D to 1646 A.D.

By the end of the Sultanate Period, Multan and Bengal were the first territories to break away from the Delhi Sultanate and declare independence and many other territories in the Deccan region rose to power.



The capital of Vijayanagara Empire was Hampi. The literal meaning of Vijaynagar is 'City of Victory'. It was the Deccan plateaubased region in South India. With the end of the Sultanate period, Bengal and Multan were the first territories to break away from Delhi Sultanate the and declared Independence with some other territories, as a result, the Deccan region came into power. The rising powers of the Vijaynagar Empire brought a clash with many powerful emperors and the wars were fought with Bahmani Kingdoms.

- This kingdom was founded by Harihara and Bukka, (who were feudatories of the Kakatiyas of Warangal) in 1336 A.D. on the southern banks of Tungabhadra
- Later, they became ministers in the kingdom of Kampili (modern Karnataka).
- Harihara and Bukka are the founders of the Vijayanagar City They made Hampi as the capital city.
- They served under Veera Ballala III, the Hoysala King.

- The carly rulers of Vijayanagar called themselves as Hindu Suratrana (Hindu Sultan).
- The two brothers were imprisoned and were converted to Islam by Muhammad bin Tughlaq as he overran Kampili since Harihara gave refuge to a Muslim rebel.
- Their guru Vidyaranya re-admitted them to Hinduism and they established their capital at Vijayanagar (the city of Victory).
- They adopted the emblem of the Chalukyas, the boar, or varahas as their royal insignia.

Main Divisions of Vijayanagar Dynasty The four main dynasties of the Vijaynagar Empire are as follows:

- Sangama Dynasty Founded by Harihar and Bukka
- Saluva Dynasty Founded by Saluna Narsimha
- Tuluva Dynasty Founded by Veer Narsimha Raya
- Aravidu Dynasty Founded by Tirumala



Vijayanagar Empire Dynasty and Rulers:

- **The Sangam dynasty** contended with the Hoysala ruler of Mysore and the sultan of Madurai.
- Harihara I made his first capital at Anegundi (Karnataka) and second capital at Vijayanagar (Hampi).
- Bukka I (1356-1377 AD) succeeded his brother on the throne of Vijayanagara in 1356 and ruled till 1377.
- In many inscriptions, he was described as the master of the western, eastern and southern oceans.

- He extended his empire up to Rameshwaram in south India, which was also extended over Cheras (Kerala) and the Tamil region.
- During his initial reign, he was defeated by the Bahmani ruler Firuz Shah and paid 10 lakhs of huns, pearls and elephants as an indemnity.
- He did not share cordial relationships with the Gajapatis of Kalinga, traditional rivals of Vijayanagara, the Reddis of Kondaveedu, the Bahmani Sultan of Gulbarga and the Velamas of Telangana.

Nicolo Conti (Italian in 1420 AD) and Niktin (Russian who wrote Voyage to India) visited India during his reign.

Harihara and Bukka (c. 1336 – 1377 CE) Sangama Dynasty

- The Vijayanagara kingdom was founded by Harihara and Bukka who belonged to a family of five brothers.
- According to a legend, they had been the feudatories of the Kakatiyas of Warangal and later became ministers in the kingdom of Kampili in modern Karnataka. When Kampili was overrun by Muhammad bin Tughlaq for giving refuge to a Muslim rebel, Harihara and Bukka were imprisoned and converted to Islam and appointed to deal with the rebellion there. Later they forsook their new master and returned to their old Hindu faith at the initiative of saint Vidyaranya. The two brothers founded a new city, Vijayanagara (city of victory), on the south bank of river Tungabhadra.
- The dissolution of the Hoysala kingdom enabled Harihara and Bukka to expand their tiny principality. By c. 1346 CE, the whole of the Hoysala kingdom had passed into the hands of the Vijayanagara rulers. In this struggle, they were aided by their brothers

and by their relations who took up the administration of the areas conquered by their efforts. The Vijayanagara kingdom was, thus, a kind of cooperative commonwealth at first.

- Bukka succeeded his brother to the throne of Vijayanagara in c. 1356 CE and ruled till c. 1377 CE.
- The rising power of the Vijayanagara empire brought it into conflict with many powers both in the south as well as in the north. In the south, its main rivals were the Sultans of Madurai. By c. 1377 CE, the Sultanate of Madurai had been completely wiped out.

Harihara 1(1336 - 1356 A.D.)

- In 1336 A.D. Harihara I became the ruler of Sangama Dynasty
- He captured Mysore and Madurai.
- In 1356 A.D. Bukka-I succeeded him.
- Bahmani and Vijayanagar conflict majorly began in 3 areas namely Raichur Doab, Krishna - Godavari Delta, and Marathwada.



- During his reign, a Portuguese traveller Fernoa Nuniz visited India.
- His son Venkata I succeeded him. He was a weak ruler and was murdered six months later. Then, Krishna Deva's son Sada Siva Raya ascended the throne. Being a minor, the real power lay in the hands of Aravidu Aliya Rama Raya, son-in-law of Krishna Deva Raya (the word, Aliya means son-in-law in the Kannada language). Rama Raya was an efficient army general who led many successful campaigns during the reign of Krishna Deva Raya.

Sada Siva Raya (c. 1542 – 1570 CE)

- He was the last ruler of the Tuluva dynasty.
- The whole empire was run by Aliya Rama Raya and Sada Siva Raya acted merely as a puppet.
- Rama Raya tried to balance the Deccan powers by playing one against the other. He constantly changed sides to improve his position which prompted the Deccan states (Bijapur, Ahmadnagar, Golkonda and Bidar except for Berar) to form an alliance. They combined to inflict a crushing defeat on the Vijayanagara armies at Bannihatti in the Battle of Talikota (Talikota) in c. 1565 CE. This battle is also called Rakshasa Tangadi. Rama Raya was imprisoned and immediately executed.
- Vijayanagara was looted and left in ruins. The Battle of Bannihatti is generally considered to mark the end of the Vijayanagara Empire (Caesar Fredrick visited Vijayanagara after the battle of Talaikotta).

ARAVIDU Dynasty

The Vijayanagara kingdom continued to exist under the Aravidu dynasty for about another century. The dynasty ruled from Penukonda and later from Chandragiri (near Tirupati). The last ruler of the kingdom was Sri Ranga III (c. 1642 - 1646 CE).

Tirumala (1570-1572 AD), brother of Ramaraja, started the Aravidu in 1570 AD who shifted his capital to Penugonda. He was succeeded by Sri Ranga, Venkata II and Sri Ranga III (1642-1646).

Administrative System Officer Department Dalvay - Commander Vassal - Guard of the palace Rayasam - Secretary/Accountant Adipapam - Personal Attendant Kariya-karta - Executive agents

 Territory was organised by creating administrative divisions called rajyas/mandalams or provinces under

The Glories of the Vijayanagar Empire Administration

- Well-organized administrative system
- The king was head of all powers in the state.
- Council of Ministers to assist the King in the work of administration.
- The Empire was divided into six Provinces.
- Naik a Governor who administered each Province.
- The provinces were divided into districts and the districts were further divided into smaller units namely villages.
- The village was administered by hereditary officers like accountants, watchmen, the weights men, and officers in charge of forced labour.
- Mahanayakacharya: He is an officer and the contact point between the villages and the Central administration.

Army and Military Organisation

 The Vijayanagara army was well organized and quite efficient. It consisted



of the cavalry, artillery, infantry, and elephants.

- The Vijayanagara rulers imported highquality horses from Arabia and other Gulf regions.
- The Malabar port was the main centre of this trade and other luxury items.
- The Amara-Nayaka system was prevalent in the Vijayanagara kingdom.
- The top-grade officers were known as Nayaks or Poligars or Palaiyagars.
- They were granted land in lieu of the services while the soldiers were usually paid in cash.
- The Nayaka had the power to collect taxes in his area which was utilized in maintaining his army, elephants, horses and warfare weapons that he had to supply to the Vijayanagara ruler.
- The Amara-Nayakas sent tributes to the king annually and personally appeared in the courts with gifts to express their loyalty.
- In the 17th century, some of these Nayakas such as those of Tanjore and Madurai claimed independence and established their separate states. These states weakened the structure of the Vijayanagara kingdom contributing the defeat of the to Vijayanagara Empire in the battle of Talaikotta.

Revenue Administration

- Land revenue was the main source of income
- The land was carefully surveyed and taxes were collected based on the fertility of the soil.
- Major importance was given to agriculture and in building dams and canals.

Judicial Administration

- The king was the supreme judge.
- Severe punishments were given for the guilty.
- Those who violated the law were levied.

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Economic conditions

- Controlled by their irrigational policies.
- Textiles, mining, metallurgy, perfumery, and other several industries existed.
- They had commercial relations with the islands in the Indian Ocean, Abyssinia, Arabia, Burma, China, Persia, Portugal, South Africa, and The Malay Archipelago.

The foreign travellers have mentioned the Vijayanagara kingdom to be one of the wealthiest kingdoms of the world at that time. Agriculture continued to be the main occupation of the people. The Vijayanagara rulers facilitated the growth of agriculture by providing better irrigation facilities like new tanks were built and dams were constructed across rivers like Tungabhadra. Nuniz refers to the excavation of canals.

There were numerous industries and they were organised into guilds. Metalworkers and other craftsmen flourished during this period. Kurnool and Anantapur districts were famous for diamond mines. Varaha was the chief gold coin but weights and measures varied from place to place. Inland, coastal and overseas trade contributed to the prosperity of the kingdom. There were a number of seaports on the Malabar coast, the chief being Cannanore. The kingdom had trade links with Persia, Arabia, South Africa and Portugal on the west and with Burma. the Malay peninsula and China in the east. Cotton, silk, iron, saltpetre, spices and sugar were the main items of export. Horses, copper, pearls, China silk, mercury, coral and velvet clothes were the items of import. The art of shipbuilding had developed.

Social life

- The society was systemized.
- Child marriage, polygamy and sati were prevalent.
- The kings allowed freedom of religion.



- The sculptures on the pillars were carved with distinctive features (mostly horses).
- Large mandapams contain one hundred pillars as well as one thousand pillars in some big temples.
- Also, many Amman shrines were added to the already existing temples during this period.
- The Vijayanagara style temples were found in the Hampi ruins or the city of Vijayanagar.
- The important examples of this style of temples were Vittalaswamy and Hazara Ramaswamy.
- The Varadharaja and Ekambaranatha temples at Kanchipuram speak about the grandeur of the Vijayanagara style of temple architecture.
- The Raya Gopurams at Tiruvannamalai and Chidambaram speak about the glorious epoch of Vijayanagar.
- They were continued by the Nayak rulers in the later period.
- The metal images of Krishna Deva Raya and his queens at Tirupati are examples of the casting of metal images.
- The Vijayanagara rulers also patronised music and dance.

Languages like Telugu, Sanskrit, Kannada and Tamil thrived during this period. Sanskrit and literature witnessed great Teluqu development. The literary achievements were at their peak during the reign of Krishna himself Deva Raya. He authored Amuktamalyada in Telugu and Jambavati Kalyanam and Usha Parinayam in Sanskrit. Allasani Peddanna was his court poet who was a distinguished Telugu scholar. Thus, Vijayanagara rulers contributed immensely to the art and culture of the period.

The decline of the Empire

- The rulers of the Aravidu dynasty were weak and incompetent to save their empire.
- Many provincial governors became independent.
- They were defeated in the battle of Talikota which was led by Rama Raya.
- The rulers of Bijapur and Golconda annexed some regions of the Vijaynagar Empire.

<u>The BAHMANI KINGDOM</u> (1347-1526 A.D.)

The Bahmani Sultanate was a Persianate Sunni Muslim empire of the Deccan in South India and one of the major medieval Indian kingdoms.

It was the first independent Muslim kingdom of the Deccan, and was known for its perpetual wars with its Hindu rivals of Vijayanagara, which would outlast the Sultanate. The sultanate was founded in 1347 by Ala-ud-Din Bahman Shah.

In the 14th century, another powerful kingdom known as Bahmani Sultanate emerged in south India. Earlier, the Deccan of region was part the provincial administration of the Delhi Sultanate. During the reign of Muhammad bin Tughlag, Amiran-i-Sada also known as Sada Amir (administrative heads of hundred villages) was appointed to establish a stable administration in the Deccan. From c. 1337 CE, the conflict between the officers in the Deccan and Delhi Sultanate intensified which led to the establishment of an independent state in the Deccan with its capital at Gulbarga in Andhra Pradesh. The founder of the state, Hasan Gangu assumed the title Alauddin Hasan Gangu, as he traced his descent from the mythical hero of Iran, Bahman Shah and the kingdom was named the Bahmani Sultanate after him. Later, the



Bahmani sultans controlled other regions too, an important one being Dabhol, an important port on the west coast.

- Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra became the part of Bahmani Kingdom.
- Gulbarga was set up as the capital of Bahmani Kingdom, which was later replaced by Bidar.
- The administrative nature of this Kingdom's kings was similar to the Feudal Government.
- Taraf was the name given to its provinces or states then.
- The official language was Persian, though the use of local languages, such as Urdu, Deccani, Marathi, Telugu and Kannada were common.

Bahmani Kingdom Political History

- It was established by Hasan Gangu Bahmani after revolting against Muhammad Bin Tughlaq.
- He was a Turkish officer of Devagiri.
- In 1347 A.D. he established the independent Bahmani kingdom.
- Its capital was Gulbarga, in present day Karnataka.
- Their main rivals were the Vijayanagar Rulers, and the tension was related to Krishna Tungabhadra Doab.
- His kingdom stretched from the Arabian Sea to the Bay of Bengal, included the whole of Deccan up to the river Krishna with its capital at Gulbarga.
- After Muhammad Shah III, and Muhammad Gawan, there were no strong rulers, and the empire declined.

Rulers of the Bahmani Kingdom Alauddin Hasan Bahman Shah (c. 1347 – 1358 CE)

- The founder of the Bahmani kingdom. His original name was Hasan Gangu and he was an Afghan adventurer.
- The military conflicts between the Vijayanagara and the Bahmani kingdom were almost a regular feature and lasted as long as these kingdoms continued.
- The Bahmani kingdom also had conflicts with the Warangal state. Hasan Gangu led his first campaign against Warangal in c. 1350 CE and forced its ruler Kapaya Nayaka to cede to him the fortress of Kaulas.
- Towards the end of his reign, the kingdom stretched from the Wenganga river to Krishna and east to west from Bhongir to Daulatabad.

Muhammad Shah-1 (1358-1377.A.D.)

- He was the next ruler of the Bahmani Kingdom.
- He was an able general and administrator.
- He defeated Kapaya Nayaks of Warangal and the Vijayanagara ruler Bukka-I.

Muhammad Shah II (1378-1397 A.D.)

- He became the ruler in 1378.
- He gave lots of architectural contributions to the dynasty.
- He was peaceful in nature and developed friendly diplomatic ties with neighbours.
- He built Hospitals for treating the people of his state.
- He built many madrasas, mosques, and other religious institutes.

Feroz Shah Bahmani (1397–1422 A.D.) / Taj-ud-din Firoz Shah (c. 1397 – 1422 CE)

 He was the most remarkable figure in the Bahmani kingdom. He was well acquainted with the religious sciences (commentaries on the Quran,



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EXAM (परीक्षा) WHEN	EXAM DATE	<u>हमारे नोट्स में से</u> <u>आये हुए प्रश्न</u>
RAS PRE. 2021	27 अक्तूबर 2021	74 प्रश्न (ISO में से) CUT OFF - 64
UPSC - IAS PRE. (2022)	05 JUNE 2022	69 (100 में से)
SSC GD 2021	16 नवम्बर	68 (100 में से)
SSC GD 2021	01 दिसम्बर	65 (100 में से)
SSC GD 2021	08 दिसम्बर	67 (100 में से)
राजस्थान ऽ.।. 2021	13 सितम्बर	113 (200 में से)
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RAS PRE. - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p3_i-3qfDy8&t=136s

VDO PRE. - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gXdAk856W18&t=202s

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CHAPTER - 13

BHAKTI AND OTHER CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS MOVEMENTS

Bhakti Movement

The term "Bhakti" literally means devotion or a passionate love for the divine.

Bhakti movement was started in the 7th and 12th century AD.

As a movement, it emphasized on the mutual intense emotional attachment and love of a devotee toward a personal god and of the god for the devotee. The Bhakti movement stresses the mystical union of the individual with God. Although the seeds of Bhakti can be found in the Vedas, it was not emphasised during the early period. The process of adoration of a personal God developed during the course of the 6th century BCE, with the of the heterodox movements of rise Buddhism and Jainism. For instance, under Mahayana Buddhism, the Buddha began to be worshipped in his gracious (avalokita) form. The worship of Vishnu too started around the same time, which was popularised to a great extent by the Gupta kings.

This movement originated in South India in the 7th and 10th CE, mostly in the poems of Alvars and Nayanars. These poems were composed in Tamil; the poems were addressed to Lord Vishnu and Lord Shiva respectively.

Bhakti soon spread to North India, appearing most notably in the 10th-century Sanskrit text the Bhagavata-Purana. It swept over east and north India from the 15th century onwards, reaching its peak between the 15th and 17th century CE. The Bhakti Saints moved against the austerities propagated by the Buddhist and Jain schools and professed that ultimate devotion to god was the means to salvation.

Vaishnava and Shaiva devotionalism were given new emphasis and expression by the Alvars and Nayanars saints of South India in the early medieval period. As per the tradition, there were 12 Alwars and 63 Nayanars. Using devotion to achieve salvation was a key component of the Bhakti movement which was started as a religious reformation in medieval India. The period of the 8th to 18th century is dedicated to the Bhakti movement where a number of saints (Hindu, Muslim, Sikh) the messiah of Bhakti evolved as (devotion), teaching people the transition of life from normalcy to enlightenment through salvation.

The Bhakti movement in South India

The development of the popular Bhakti movement took place in south India between the 7th and 12th centuries CE. It was based on religious equality and broadbased social participation. The Shivaite Nayannars and the Vaishnavaite Alvars, who preached the Bhakti cult under the Pallavas, Pandyas and Cholas disregarded the austerities preached by the Jains and the Buddhists. They preached personal devotion to God as a means of salvation. They disregarded the rigidities of the caste system and carried the message of love and personal devotion to God to various parts of South India with the help of local languages.

The Bhakti movement in North India

The Bhakti movement gained importance in the northern parts of the country during the 12th-17th century CE. The Bhakti movement in north India is sometimes seen as a continuation of the movement that originated in the south. Despite the similarities in the tradition of the two regions, the idea of Bhakti varied in terms of the teachings of each of the saints. The northern medieval Bhakti movement was



influenced by the spread of Islam in India. The main features of Islam like belief in one God (monotheism), equality and brotherhood, and rejection of rituals and class divisions greatly influenced the Bhakti movement of this era. The movement also brought certain reforms to society.

Origin of Bhakti Movement

Some scholars believe that the rise of the Bhakti movement was a reaction against feudal oppression and against Rajput-Brahmin domination.

 Another group of scholars believe that the socio-economic changes in the early medieval period led to the emergence of this movement. During the 13th and 14th centuries, the demand for goods increased which led to the migration of artisans into cities. The Bhakti movement gained support from these classes of society as they were not satisfied with the low status given to them by the Brahmanical system and hence, they turned towards Bhakti since it focussed on equality.

Though there is no single opinion about the origin of the Bhakti movement, there is unanimity of thought over the fact that the Bhakti movement was based on equality and devotional surrender to a personally conceived supreme God.

Saguna and Nirguna are the two different ideological streams of the Bhakti movement.

which icu to the migration of arti-	
Saguna	Nirguna
Saguna represented those poet- saints who composed verses extolling a god with attributes or form.	Nirguna represented those poet-saints who extolled god without and beyond all attributes or form. They are also known as Monotheistic Bhakti saints
Tulsidas, Chaitanya, Surdas and Meera were the main proponents of Saguna.	Nanak and Kabir were the main proponents of Nirguna.
 The Saguna poets were in favour of the dominance of Brahmins and supported the caste system. They preached a religion of surrender and simple faith in a personal god while also supporting idol worship. 	 The Nirguna poet-saints rejected the supremacy of the Brahmins and all conventions based on caste distinctions along with the practice of idolatry. They gave importance to the personal experience with god and even though they called their god using different names and titles, yet their god was formless, eternal, non-incarnate and ineffable. It seemed that their ideas were a synthesis of the three traditions; the Vaishnava concept of Bhakti, the Nanpanthi movement and Sufism. Thus, though they had adopted the notion of Bhakti from Vaishnavism, they gave it a Nirguna orientation.



Paths and Pillars of Bhakti

From a modem historical standpoint the development of bhakti is the coming together of considerably earlier theistic tendencies in three major religious traditions of ancient India:

- The sacrificial cult of the invading Aryans and the recitation of the Brahmana priests that became the foundation of the Vedas;
- 2. The practice of bodily mortification and groups known as Srarnanas probably continuing traditions of earlier inhabitants of India but soon adapted - by some of the Aryans; and
- 3. The pre Aryan cults of spirits and village goddesses inhabiting trees and rocks and protecting special people or special groups.

Some of the common teachings associated with this movement are:

- It preached equality. This was in stark contrast to the reality where the society was divided on the lines of religion, caste, gender etc. Ex: Disciples of Ramananda included a weaver, cobbler, barber
- It preached universal brotherhood built on values such as love, care, and affection etc for everyone in the society. Ex: Kabir preached universal brotherhood through his Dohas.
- It strove hard to rid the religion and society of evil practices that had crept into the society over the years. Ex: Guru Nanakcondemned caste differences and rituals like bathing in holy rivers. His idea of religion was highly practical and strictly moral.
- Perhaps the most important aspect of the movement was its emphasis on the route of 'Bhakthi' rather than superficial rituals as the mode to realize god and salvation.

Alvars and Nayanars of Tamil Nadu

The Alvars and Nayanars led some of the earliest Bhakti movements (c. sixth century).

The Nayanars and Alvars were Tamil poetsaints who played an essential role in the propagation of a Bhakti Movement in the South part of India during the 5th – 10th centuries.

- In South India 7th to 9th centuries saw the emergence of new religious movements, led by the Nayanars (saints devoted to Shiva) and Alvars (saints devoted to Vishnu) who came from all castes including those considered "untouchable" like the Pulaiyar and the Panars.
- They were sharply critical of the Buddhists and Jainas.
- They drew upon the ideals of love and heroism as found in the Sangam literature (Tamil literature).
- Between 10th and 12th centuries the Chola and Pandya kings built elaborate temples around many of the shrines visited by the saint-poets, strengthening the links between the bhakti tradition and temple worship.

Alvars – those who are "immersed" in devotion to Vishnu.

- Alvars bestowed their belief and devotion to Lord Vishnu
- The poetry of the Alvars echoes Bhakti to God through love, and in the ecstasy of such devotions they sang hundreds of songs which embodied both depth of feeling and felicity of expressions
- The collection of their hymns is known as Divya Prabandha. The Bhakti literature that sprang from Alvars has contributed to the establishment and sustenance of a culture that broke away from the ritual-oriented Vedic religion and rooted itself in devotion as the only path for salvation.



<u> CHAPTER - 14</u>

THE MUGHAL EMPIRE

Mughal Empire was the largest empire in Indian history in terms of administrative innovations, military power, economic prosperity and political expansion.

The Mughal Dynasty

From the latter half of the 16th century, they expanded their kingdom from Agra and Delhi until in the 17th century they controlled nearly all of the subcontinent.

They imposed structures of administration and ideas of governance that outlasted their rule, leaving a political legacy that succeeding rulers of the subcontinent could not ignore.

The Mughal reign was a crucial phase in Indian History. This article throws light on the Mughal era in India like Economic & Social Life, Agriculture, Trade Growth, etc.

MUGHAL PERIOD (1526-40 and 1555-1857)

The Mughals were descendants of two great lineages of rulers.

Babur: founder of the Mughal Empire in India was related to Timur from his father's side and to Chengiz Khan through his mother.

Babur succeeded his father as the ruler of Farghana (Uzbekistan), but soon lost his kingdom.

Financial difficulties, apprehension of the Uzbek attack on Kabul and the invitation of Rana Sanga to invade India forced Babur to look towards India.

Babar traced his lineage from Timur (father's side) who founded the Timurid Empire and so, Mughal Empire was also known as the **Timurids** and he also claimed his line it from **Changez Khan** (from the mother side).

Mangal + Turkey = Mughals (means Brave)

Who were the Mughals?

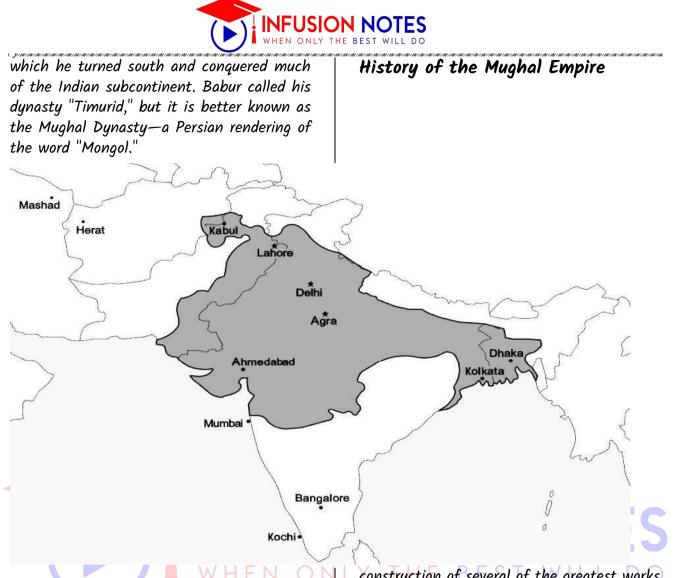
The Mughals were a foreign invader within India, and their lineage can be traced back to the Timurid Empire that existed in central Asia. The founder of the Mughal Dynasty was a man named Babur, who was a descendent of Timur. He invaded India and founded his dynasty in the year 1526. Subsequent Mughal Rulers would then greatly expand the empire.

The Mughals were Muslims, and they built dozens of mosques in an effort to help the spread of Islam. Today much of the Islamic population living within India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh can be traced back to the days of the Mughals.

The Founding of the Mughal Empire

The young prince Babur, who was descended from Timur on his father's side and Genghis Khan on his mother's, finished his conquest of northern India in 1526, defeating the Delhi Sultan Ibrahim Shah Lodi at the First Battle of Panipat.

Babur was a refugee from the fierce dynastic struggles in Central Asia; his uncles and other warlords had repeatedly denied him rule over the Silk Road cities of Samarkand and Fergana, his birthright. Babur was able to establish a base in Kabul, though, from



Approximate Borders of the Mughal Empire during the reign of Akbar (1556-1605)

There are three main emperors whose rules illustrate the rise and fall of the Mughal empire. The first is Akbar, the son of the founder of the Mughal Dynasty **Babur**. **Akbar** ruled for nearly 50 years from **IS56**– **I605**. He was a conqueror and significantly grew the size of the empire. Akbar was known as a tolerant ruler who accepted all faiths including Hinduism, and Jainism. Akbar was a great patron of the arts and of academics. He commissioned the construction of several of the greatest works of Mughal Military Architecture.

Shah Jahan was the famous Mughal Emperor who built the Taj Mahal. He ruled from 1628-1658 during a period that was a cultural peak for the Mughal Empire. The Taj Mahal's fine detailing and extravagant materials show how powerful the Mughals were at this time. While the Taj Mahal may be the most well-known example, there are countless other works of Mughal Architecture that can be found throughout India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh.



- A large variety of crops such as barley, gram, pulses, rice, and wheat were cultivated.
- Commercial crops such as indigo, oil-seeds, cotton and sugarcane were also cultivated.
- During the seventeenth century two new crops, viz., tobacco and maize were added.
- On a note, no new agricultural technique was introduced during this period.
- India was able to export food items like rice and sugar to the neighbouring countries.

Growth of Trade

- The Indian trading classes spread across the country and were in large numbers.
- Seth and Bohra Long-distance traders
- Banik Local traders
- Banjaras Another class of traders specialized in carrying bulk goods, they also moved long distances with their goods on the back of oxen.
- Bulk goods were also taken through rivers on boats.
- The Gujarati merchants included the Hindus, Jains and Muslims.
- In Rajasthan, Oswals, Maheshwaris, and Agarwals came to be called the Marwaris.
- The most important trading communities in south India
 - The Chettis on the Coromandel coast
 - the Muslim merchants of Malabar
- Bengal Exported sugar, rice as well as delicate muslin and silk.
- Gujarat Was an entry point of foreign goods from where fine textiles and silk were taken to north India.
- The major imports into India were certain metals such as
 - tin and copper
 - warhorses and
 - luxury items such as ivory

- The import of gold and silver balanced of trade.
- In the seventeenth century, the growth of foreign trade resulted in the increased import of gold and silver.

Cultural Development under the Mughals

- The Mughal period witnessed a significant and widespread development in cultural activity.
- It was evident in the sphere of art and architecture, painting, music and literature.
- The Mughals brought Turko-Iranian culture into India and the Indian traditions were blended Turko-Iranian culture.

Art and Architecture

- The Mughals were fond of laying gardens with running water. Some of the Mughal Gardens are:
- Nishat Bagh in Kashmir
- the Shalimar Bagh at Lahore
- the Pinjore garden in Punjab
- During the reign of Sher Shah, the mausoleum at Sasaram in Bihar and the Purana Qila near Delhi were built.
- Large scale construction of buildings started with the dawn of Akbar
- He built many forts and the most famous one was the Agra Fort. It was built in red sandstone.
- His other forts are at Lahore and Allahabad.
- Shah Jahan built the famous Red Fort at Delhi with its Rang Mahal, Diwan-i-Am and Diwan-i-Khaswas
- Akbar also built a palace cum fort complex at Fatehpur Sikri (City of Victory).
- Many buildings in Gujarati and Bengali styles are also found in this complex.

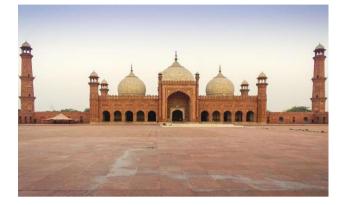


- Gujarati style buildings were probably built for his Rajput wives.
- The most magnificent building in it is the Jama Masjid and the gateway to it called Buland Darwaza or the Lofty Gate.
- The height of the gateway is 176 feet. It was built to commemorate Akbar's victory over Gujarat.
- Other important buildings at Fatehpur Sikri are Jodha Bai's palace and Panch Mahal with five storeys.
- During Akbar's reign, the Humayun's tomb was built at Delhi and it had a massive dome of marble.
- It may be considered the precursor of the Taj Mahal.
- Akbar's tomb at Sikandra near Agra was completed by Jahangir.
- Nur Jahan built the tomb of Itmad Daulah at Agra.
- It was constructed wholly of white marble with floral designs made of semi-precious stones on the walls. (Pietra dura)
- This method became more popular during the reign of Shah Jahan.
- Taj Mahal
- The Pietra Dura method was used on a large scale in the Taj Mahal.
- Taj Mahal is considered as the jewel of the builder's art.
- It contains all the architectural forms developed by the Mughals.
- The chief glory of the Taj is the massive dome and the four slender minarets
- The decorations are kept to the minimum.
- The Moti Masjid at Agra was built entirely in white marble. The Jama Masjid at Delhi was built in red stone.

Characteristics Architecture

Mughal

Islamic Influences



of

In nearly all works of Mughal Architecture we can see a heavy Islamic Influence. Islamic building elements such as pointed arches, Muqarnas, Minarets, and domes can be found throughout the buildings of the Mughal Empire. In the above image of the Badshahi Mosque in Lahore Pakistan, you can see several of these characteristics. The towering minarets were a high point where individuals would chant the Islamic Call to Prayer. The Mosque is also built with three Onion Domes, a characteristic found in older works of Persian and Timurid Architecture.

Hindu Influences



Although the Mughals practiced Islam, Mughal Architecture utilizes many elements from Hindu Temples. Hinduism was the dominant religion in the heart of India long before the arrival of the Mughals, and today roughly 80% of India identifies as Hindu. In the above image at the Lahore Fort in



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RAS PRE. 2021	27 अक्तूबर 2021	74 प्रश्न (ISO में से) CUT OFF - 64
UPSC - IAS PRE. (2022)	05 JUNE 2022	69 (100 में से)
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